

# Transportation Services for Community Independence Instruction

Student Support Services Committee  
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Office for Special Education

# What is Community Independence Instruction (CII)?

- CII is purposeful, meaningful instruction taught in the classroom and practiced in the school and/or local community for the generalization of skills
- Supports curriculum-based learning and each student's IEP Goals (i.e. IEP Goals, Unique Learning, ASOLs and SOLs, etc.)
- Requires inquiry, planning, action, reflection and data
- Teaches transferable independent living and employment/work skills through work-based learning opportunities in and out of the school
- CII can occur “in the school building” and “out of the school building.”

# Historical Perspective: Transportation Services

2015-2016 LCPS Office for Special Education and SEAC sub-committee review of CII programming related to transportation services:

- Extended commutes, therefore, decreasing the amount of instructional time available
- Students/families not able to sustain employment because opportunities were outside of student's communities
- Limited public transportation options for students to sustain employment after graduation/program completion
- Program priority is workplace readiness skills versus field trip experience

# Historical Perspective: Transportation Services

2015-2016 LCPS Office for Special Education and SEAC sub-committee recommendation related to transportation services:

- All CII locations should be in a 5-mile radius of the school except for LVH, WHS attendance zones as well as Sycolin Creek ES which will be extended to 8 miles. If there is a need to shop at Costco for supplies for a school-based business and Costco is out of the 5-mile radius, exception will be made.
- Administrators and teachers were trained and the CII portal was created and established so that Transition Specialists could approve CII based on location, duration, application of workplace readiness skills, and student IEP goals. The teachers and school based administration could discuss the CII lesson plans with the Transition Specialist and the 5-mile radius could be extended if necessary.

# CII Transportation Services

## Benefits of Shorter Distances

- Students are on the bus for a shorter amount of time, which leads to increased time in the community and work sites.
- Students are able to spend more time working on workplace readiness and independent living skills.
- Students are able to obtain work experience and employment within their neighborhood community, limiting future transportation challenges.
- Reduces overlap of work areas so that schools are not competing for job opportunities within the same businesses .

# CII Transportation Services

## Ongoing Program Considerations

- Ensure school-teams are aware that LCPS transportation services for CII can and does extend beyond a 5-mile radius
- Attention to factors such as travel time and time for meaningful learning experiences are areas of continued analysis for the community/business selection
- Maintain existing and identify new businesses to provide opportunities for student work experiences within the community
- Continue to teach students how to independently utilize available public transportation to travel to work site for future independence